

U.S. Department of Justice

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April 19, 2006

EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Curtis Cobb

GUN TRAFFICKER SENTENCED

Curtis Cobb, 32, of Melvindale was sentenced today to 27 months imprisonment for weapons charges announced United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy. U.S. Attorney Murphy was joined in the announcement by Valerie J. Goddard, Special Agent in Charge, Michigan Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

Cobb pleaded guilty in December 2005 to a seven count indictment charging him with false statement to a federal firearms licensee; possession of firearms with obliterated serial numbers; and dealing in firearms without a license.

At the time of his plea, Cobb admitted to the Court that he purchased approximately 42 handguns from several gun shops located in the state of Ohio. At the time of the purchases, Cobb provided false information on documents related to the sale of the firearms. Cobb transported the guns to Michigan and filed the serial numbers off the weapons. Cobb then sold seven of the firearms to an undercover ATF agent in the parking lot of a McDonald's restaurant located in the city of Detroit. In addition, ATF recovered three additional firearms during a search of Cobb's apartment and automobile. The location of the remaining 32

firearms is unknown.

United States Attorney Murphy stated that, "Prosecuting individuals who traffic in illegal firearms is part of my office's continuing commitment to reduce gun violence in our communities. We will never cease enforcement of these important laws designed to reduce gun violence."

"A critical component of the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative is targeting individuals who illegally traffic firearms, states SAC Goddard. ATF remains committed to identifying and prosecuting the sources of illegal firearms into the Detroit metropolitan area. We has seen tremendous success in this area."

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jeanine Jones.